MC 108 - Cultural Studies.

-Aim- to try and understand how we think, how we imagine the world around us and who we are.

- The individual's constant repositioning of himself within society, culture, and events.
- We create myths about ourselves and our world.

- narrative - story-telling
- Popularity soap-opera, Tabloid Newspapers.
- Saturation of stories to ~~give~~ organise sense in the world.
reorganise

~~the~~ - the need to create a critical space to view our culture from a new pt. of view - The relativity of culture.
→ common-sense (Naturalization, unconscious cultural programmings)
↓
only broken down when we are surrounded by a new culture.

- STUDY OF THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE SYMBOLIC AND COGNITIVE STRUCTURES OF OUR OWN SOCIETY.

- the symbolic structures of signs and symbols in place in our society,
- E.g:- English society → The Royal family.
- general → fashion.

COGNITIVE STRUCTURES-

cognition - a way of referring to what we think, know & learn.
- formal sets of knowledge. - (e.g: mathematical, religious etc..)

codified knowledges - help make the familiar look unfamiliar.
Allows us to view from a distance.

Williams - "The long revolution"
↓
in Hastings

Hall - Richard Hogart
↓
"The uses of literacy"

Edward Thomson → "The making of the British working class."
(Halifax)

1960 - First Coronation Street episode.
↓
nostalgic affirmation of the disappearing working-class culture.

→ Thomson, Hogart and Williams -
work
↓
Culture as a living process
- Culture represents the epitomy of civilisation.
- the pub - social phenomena starting up
↓
Ordinary people still had a culture (not barbarous)
- There is no single criteria to judge one culture against the other

Pub - fish 'n' chips

1964.
- Richard Hogard/t left Birmingham
set up (centre for contemporary cultural studies)
~~defended~~ / defended
- 1963 - Lady Chatterley's lover (Penguin books sued in court for publishing pornography).

↓ Stuart Hall - (black jamaican origin).
- cultural studies began in jamaica. (he set up cultural studies basing on British modernists
- disgusted by Oxford - (culture).
-

Since 1st 19's British Culture organised around mass-culture.

1866 - First
1896 - daily mail
- Marconi - Radio.

1950's - Americanised culture tendency intensified
- Hollywood determinant factor.
- television in Britain - 1953 - (American movies)

- One of the key concepts → ~~the insular conflictive~~ conflicts ~~between~~
between

British insular conservative high culture
↳ what happens when ~~he~~ it gets blasted by mass American culture

4-keys 4 pts - Culture is a living
The popular classes did possess culture

- Matthew Arnold